

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1, 4, and 5 are pending. Claims 1, 4, and 5, which are independent, are hereby amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at page 34. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to the claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over US Publication No. 2002/0164149 to Wilkinson (hereinafter, merely “Wilkinson”), in view of US Publication No. 2001/0020261 to Ando et al. (hereinafter, merely “Ando”).

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...a master file generating means for generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file separately from each other...” (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Ando relates to an information recording method, an information recording device, an information reproducing device, and an information storage medium which are suitable for recording various types of information, including video information and/or audio information, and further computer data, onto a recording medium.

As understood by Applicants, Wilkinson relates to a method and apparatus for combining data with other material. The present invention also relates to a signal processing apparatus arranged to carry out the method, a digital bitstream and a computer program product.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither of the cited references, taken alone or in combination, teach or disclose the above discussed feature of claim 1. Specifically, neither Ando nor Wilkinson, considered either alone or in combination, teach or suggest a master file generating means for generating a master file in an AV independent format, where the file unit metadata and the frame unit metadata are brought together into one file separately from each other, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above with regard to independent claim 1, the independent claims 4 and 5 are also patentable.

CONCLUSION

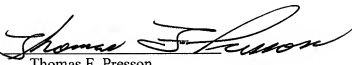
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of the statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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